

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 652

By Matlock

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Johnnie Elizabeth Hammontree Myers.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Johnnie Elizabeth Hammontree Myers, a lady devoted to public service in the political realm; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong Republican, Mrs. Myers was active in the GOP at the local, State, and national levels, working assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Myers held the distinction of being the first woman vice chair and the first woman chair of the Loudon County Republican Party; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of the GOP, she served as the Tennessee Republican State Executive Committee Woman for more than thirty years and president of the Loudon County Republican Women for four years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Myers had also served as the GOP chairperson for Tennessee's Third Congressional District; a delegate to the National Federation of Republican Women in Dallas, Texas (1973), Los Angeles, California (1975), and Denver, Colorado (1981); a Tennessee delegate to the Republican Party National Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1976; and an alternate delegate to the Republican Party National Convention in 1992; and

WHEREAS, her invaluable contributions to the party were justly recognized when she was named Statesman of the Year in 1997 and inducted into the Loudon County Republican Hall of Fame in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Myers gave back to her community through her service as a matron of the Greenback Eastern Star Chapter 401 and several other positions with the Grand Chapter and as chair of the Loudon County March of Dimes; she was honored as the First Lady of

Loudon County in 1991 and received the Community Service Award from the Coytee Chapter of DAR in 1994; and

WHEREAS, a native of Greenback, Mrs. Myers was a lifetime member of Pine Grove Presbyterian Church, which she served faithfully as an elder and clerk of the session for many years; and

WHEREAS, she was an avid fan of the University of Tennessee men's basketball team and had been a season-ticket holder since 1962; she also loved to travel, having visited Europe, Hawaii, Alaska, and the Holy Land twice; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Myers is survived by her daughter Vicki and husband, Doug Gunnels; sisters Willie Evans and Shirley Bell; grandsons, Brett Gunnels and Cory Gunnels and wife, Ashton; great grandson, Cabe Gunnels; numerous nieces and nephews; and a loving church family and many friends; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her husband Harley Myers; daughter Harlene Myers; parents, Leon and Ella Hammontree; brother, Tommy Hammontree; sister Mildred Disney; and nephew Mike Disney; and

WHEREAS, Johnnie Elizabeth Hammontree Myers leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Johnnie Elizabeth Hammontree Myers, reflecting fondly upon her lifetime of service to the Republican Party and her community and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Myers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.